

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 have been previously canceled. Claims 8, 9, 11 and 13-18 have been amended. No claims have been canceled by way of this response. Thus, claims 8-18 are currently pending and presented for examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Response to Objections:

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure for certain informalities. Applicant has corrected the informalities and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections.

Response to Claim Rejections Under Section 112:

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention because there is insufficient basis for “the second compression method.” Applicants have amended this claim to overcome this rejection.

Response to Rejections Under Section 102:

Claims 8, 10, 12 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0040278 to Anuzis et al (hereinafter “Anuzis”).

Applicant's' claim 8, as amended and in part, recites:

applying at least one of a plurality of corresponding compression methods responsive to the current operating state to a set of process signals, wherein said applying the at least one of the plurality of compression methods comprises;

acquiring process signals at definable time intervals;

storing the process signals first in a header buffer at an instant other the instant corresponding to the current operating state;

examining the stored process signals to ascertain whether a process signal has remained within an amplitude band since it was last stored and how long ago it was last stored, wherein the examining step involves selecting the size of the amplitude to correspond to the current operating state of the plant;

determining the at least one of the plurality of compression methods to apply based on a result from examining the process signals to minimize a loss of data significant for the process signal.

In contrast, Anuzis teaches taking performance and vibration data streams and combining and fusing together to construct a signature for the system that can be compared to a signature derived from a model representing a healthy power plant. (Para. [0082]). Therefore, it is evident that Anuzis applies only one type of compression that is predefined to correspond to a signature derived from a model representing a healthy power plant.

In view of the above, claim 8 is not anticipated by Anuzis. Furthermore, claims 10, 12 and 14 which depend on claim 8 are also patentable at least based on their dependence from claim 8 as well as based on their own merits. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejections.

Response to Rejections Under Section 103:

On pages 6-13 of the Office Action, certain claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuzis in view of the secondary references U.S. Patent No. 6,177,898 to Ong, U.S. Patent No. 5,038,287 to Taniguchi et al (hereinafter "Taniguchi"); U.S. Patent No. 5,203,160 to Ozono, and U.S. Patent No. 6,243,139 to Takahashi et al (hereinafter "Takahashi").


Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the Section 103 rejections. As explained above, Anuzis does not disclose the elements of Applicants' claim 8 as the Examiner originally contends were disclosed. Therefore, the basis for this rejection now stands moot.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the objections and rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including fees for additional claims and terminal disclaimer fee, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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